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Final report of the
Southern Appalachian...
Washington
1931

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FINAL REPORT
OF THE
SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN
NATIONAL PARK
COMMISSION

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR JUNE 30, 1931

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WASHINGTON : 1931

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

FOR THE YEAR 1911



THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Apr. 6 / 1912



MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN NATIONAL PARK COMMISSION

Left to right: William C. Gregg, Representative Henry W. Temple, Col. Glenn S. Smith, Maj. William A. Welch, Harlan P. Kelsey.

FINAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN NATIONAL PARK COMMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Former Director Stephen T. Mather, in the seventh annual report of the National Park Service, 1923, wrote:

I should like to see additional national parks established east of the Mississippi, but just how this can be accomplished is not clear. There should be a typical section of the Appalachian Range established as a national park with its native flora and fauna conserved and made accessible for public use and its development undertaken by Federal funds. As areas in public ownership in the East are at present limited to a number of forest reserves acquired under the provisions of the Weeks Act authorizing the purchase of lands for the protection of forests and the headwaters of streams, it appears that the only practicable way national park areas can be acquired would be by donation of lands from funds privately donated, as in the case of the Lafayette National Park.

Early in 1924 Director Mather conferred with Secretary Hubert Work regarding the recommendation in his report and found the Secretary an enthusiastic indorser of his project. Secretary Work immediately took steps to have an investigation made of the southern Appalachian Mountain region with a view of determining whether it included areas suitable for national parks. He decided that this investigation could best be accomplished by a special committee appointed for this purpose.

On February 16, 1924, he wrote to Maj. W. A. Welch, general manager and chief engineer of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission of New York, and Representative Henry W. Temple, Member of Congress from Pennsylvania, inviting them to serve on the proposed committee. He also requested the Director of the United States Geological Survey to assign Col. Glenn S. Smith, division engineer of the Geological Survey, as a member of the committee to represent the Secretary, and wrote to Mr. Barrington Moore, secretary of the Council on National Parks, Forests, and Wild Life, New York, asking that the council select two of its members to serve on the committee. This council, on March 4, 1924, selected Mr. Harlan P. Kelsey, of Salem, Mass., a former president of the Appalachian Mountain Club, and Mr. William C. Gregg, of the National Arts Club, New York.

All members invited to form this committee accepted, and a meeting of the committee was called for March 26, 1924, and held at 2.45 p. m. in the office of Director Mather, of the National Park Service. Representative Temple presided at the meeting, having been designated chairman by the Secretary of the Interior.

After discussing the question of a name, the committee decided that it should be known as the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee. Col. Glenn S. Smith was elected secretary and treasurer. As no Government funds were available for taking care of any expenses that might be incurred in connection with the commit-



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tee's investigations, it was necessary that the members bear such expenses personally. Mr. Gregg donated \$500 for the committee's use. Later, as this fund was exhausted, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, jr., gave an additional \$500 and Mr. Mather \$250.

At the end of the first day of the meeting Secretary Work met the committee in his office, issued instructions, and later gave out the following statement for the press:

The Southern Appalachian National Park Committee at its first meeting, organized under the chairmanship of Representative Henry W. Temple, elected Col. Glenn S. Smith secretary and treasurer.

As the committee already has a large number of requests for examinations of territory, it was decided to send out a questionnaire to all interested communities. The committee wishes to have it known that it considers its scope confined to the southern Appalachian Mountains, not extending north of the northern border of Maryland.

The next meeting of the committee is subject to the call of the chairman and will probably not occur until a considerable amount of data is available.

Communications suggesting national park sites have been received from the following localities: Knoxville, Tenn.; Jonesboro, Tenn.; Cleveland, Tenn.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Elizabethton, Tenn.; Johnson City, Tenn.; tri-State area, Kentucky-Tennessee-Virginia; Mammoth Cave, Ky.; Clay City, Ky.; Asheville, N. C.; Linville, N. C.; Bakersville, N. C.; Wilmington, N. C.; Louisville, Ky.; Staunton, Va.; Wise County, Va.; Big Knob, Va.; Harrisonburg, Va.; Morgantown, W. Va.; Berkeley Springs, W. Va.; Canaan Valley, W. Va.; Atlanta, Ga. (Chamber of Commerce); and Tallulah Park, Ga.

It was decided by the committee that when the questionnaires had been filled out and returned they would be taken up for consideration and decision as to which ones should be investigated by a visit of the committee. This questionnaire, which was intended to elicit certain pertinent facts regarding the location, area, maximum and minimum altitude, and special scenic features in the proposed areas, also asked for a statement regarding improvements, whether the area had been lumbered, and the approximate price that would probably be asked for the land involved.

After receiving requests from several localities for inspection of their areas, the committee decided that it would be necessary to make a trip throughout the Appalachian region to determine by elimination the areas for inspection.

On the invitation of Representative Thomas M. Bell, Member of Congress from the ninth district of Georgia, the committee visited Gainesville as his guests, with a view to starting from Gainesville on this inspection tour, which was planned to take in the mountain regions in the vicinity of Highlands, Asheville, the Linville Gorge, and Grandfather Mountain area, and the Roan Mountain section in North Carolina and the Great Smoky Mountains area in Tennessee.

Secretary Work accepted an invitation to accompany the committee on this trip, and the party left Washington July 25, 1924, arriving at Gainesville July 26. The Secretary and the committee spent the night at Representative Bell's residence and proceeded on July 27 to Clayton, Ga., accompanied by about 60 prominent Georgians, including Governor Clifford M. Walker and United States Senator W. J. Harris, together with numerous representatives of the press and members of chambers of commerce and other State organizations. After spending the night in the vicinity of Yonah Mountain, the committee went on to Tallulah Falls, which they inspected, and thence to Highlands, N. C., for the night. At

this point the committee was obliged to proceed without Secretary Work, who was slightly indisposed and remained at Highlands, returning to Washington the next day.

At Highlands the members of the North Carolina delegation from Asheville met the committee. This delegation was headed by Col. J. H. Pratt and was composed of representative men from the western part of North Carolina.

From Highlands the committee proceeded, on the following day, to Bovard, visiting en route Whiteside Mountain and arriving at Bovard at 2 p. m., where they were entertained at a luncheon at the Franklin Hotel given by the citizens of the town. At this point a second delegation from Asheville met the committee, including the mayor of Asheville and several county commissioners. From Bovard the committee went to Grove Park Inn, Asheville, for the night.

A delegation from Tennessee, headed by W. P. Davis, president of the Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, accompanied by Col. David C. Chapman, chairman of the Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission of Tennessee, and Representative J. Will Taylor, and including a number of prominent Knoxville business men, called on the members of the committee on the evening of their arrival at Asheville and presented their claim for location of a national park in the Great Smoky Mountains area. The following morning the party left Grove Park Inn for Mount Mitchell as the guests of the Mount Mitchell Motor Road Co. Luncheon was served at the hotel atop Mount Mitchell, and on descending the mountain the party proceeded immediately to Blowing Rock, N. C., where they spent the night.

On July 31 the party inspected the area in the vicinity of Grandfather Mountain and then went on to Linville for the night.

On August 1 a delegation headed by Mr. A. M. Kistler, from Marion, N. C., took the committee to inspect Linville Gorge, thence on to Marion, where they were entertained at the Marion Country Club House. Immediately after lunch Messrs. Gregg and Kelsey and Colonel Smith were taken by automobile to Bakersville, where they addressed a gathering at the county courthouse. Doctor Temple and Major Welch left the party at Marion for their homes. After spending the night at Bakersville the committee members were taken on horseback by a delegation composed of local men to the top of Roan Mountain, where they made a careful inspection of the area in that vicinity and returned that evening to Bakersville to spend the night.

On August 3 the committee members proceeded to Johnson City. There Colonel Smith was obliged to leave for Washington, and Mr. Kelsey and Mr. Gregg, in response to an urgent request from the Great Smoky Mountains Park Association, went to Knoxville, Tenn., where they were met by a committee who took them in charge to visit the Smoky Mountains area. Traveling from Knoxville to Gatlinburg by automobile, they found that all necessary preparations had been made for taking the party to Mount LeConte and other high points lying in the center of the proposed park area. A large number of people, possibly 40 or 50, interested in the park movement, congregated at Gatlinburg, but only the members of the Great Smoky Mountains Park Association accompanied the party

on their trips. For the next five or six days Messrs. Kelsey and Gregg were escorted on horseback to various high points of interest, spending one night on Mount LeConte, from which an extensive view of a large part of the area proposed for a park could be seen.

The Governor of Tennessee and other State officials met the committee members in the vicinity of Gatlinburg on their return from Mount LeConte.

After an extensive investigation of the Tennessee side of the Great Smoky Mountains area, Mr. Kelsey returned to his home, and Mr. Gregg proceeded on horseback through Indian Gap to Bryson City, on the North Carolina side, and spent some time in investigating the areas in that vicinity.

On September 12, in response to a request from Governor Morgan, of West Virginia, for the members of the committee to attend a conference to be held at White Sulphur Springs, Major Welch and Colonel Smith went to that place where a large assembly of West Virginians held a meeting in the auditorium of the hotel, presided over by Governor Morgan. The governor requested that the committee recommend the area surrounding White Sulphur Springs, which includes numerous other springs, as a location for a national park. After the meeting the committee members were taken by automobile to inspect the area recommended.

Major Welch and Colonel Smith left that evening for Luray to inspect an area lying in the Blue Ridge, extending from Front Royal to Waynesboro. On arrival at Luray they were met by several hundred residents headed by a band. It developed that two delegations were present, one representing those interested in recommending the Massanutten Mountains as an area to be considered, and the other, headed by Mr. George Freeman Pollock, of Skyland, recommending the inspection of the Blue Ridge area. The committee members decided to go immediately to Skyland to make the inspection of that area first. The delegation from the Massanutten Mountains area was invited by Mr. Pollock to accompany the Blue Ridge delegation, and the invitation was accepted.

The committee members, under the guidance of Mr. Pollock, spent three days inspecting the area in the immediate vicinity of Skyland, visiting White Oak Canyon, Stony Man Mountain, and the mountain ridge south of Skyland for a distance of 12 or 15 miles. After this short inspection Colonel Smith and Major Welch were so favorably impressed with the area that they postponed further investigation until arrangements could be made for the whole committee to visit it.

The delegation recommending the Massanutten Mountains area, after this visit, were convinced that the area surrounding Skyland was superior to the Massanutten area; therefore the committee made no investigation of Massanutten at that time.

On October 16, 1924, Major Welch, at the urgent request of Col. L. B. Musgrove, of Jasper, Ala., who had invited the entire committee to inspect an area in northern Alabama, went to Jasper as the committee's representative and was shown an area extending from Muscle Shoals Dam, joining the Alabama National Forest on the south, and comprising about 200,000 acres. It was learned that this area contains a large number of valuable coal seams and deposits of other minerals which made it impracticable for consideration, because

its selection as a national park would prevent future industrial developments.

After the brief inspection of the Blue Ridge area by Major Welch and Colonel Smith, Mr. Gregg visited Skyland and spent a week in more thoroughly investigating the areas lying between Skyland and Waynesboro, riding the ridge on horseback.

After leaving Skyland he stopped at Harrisonburg, where he attended a luncheon of the Rotary Club at which 50 or 60 members were present and discussed with them the possibility of locating a national park in the Blue Ridge area. There seemed to be divided opinion in the Shenandoah Valley as to the proper location of the proposed park, as many of the inhabitants were recommending the Massanutten Range, lying west of the main Blue Ridge. This divided opinion as to the merit of the two localities was soon overcome, however, and those who had been in favor of the Massanutten area joined forces with the advocates of the Blue Ridge.

In October, 1924, Mr. Gregg offered to make an inspection trip through the Southern States at his own expense with a view to locating possible areas for a national park which the remaining members of the committee could inspect later. He visited the northern parts of South Carolina and Georgia and western North Carolina, going as far south as Tallulah Falls in Georgia, and stopping at Clayton, the county seat of Rabun County, and Dillard, Ga., and Highlands, N. C. Though he found several areas of scenic beauty, they were too thickly settled and too highly cultivated for national-park purposes.

From Highlands he proceeded to Asheville and thence to Marion, N. C., where, under the guidance of A. M. Kistler, he visited Blowing Rock. Mr. Kistler then took Mr. Gregg to Grandfather Mountain, which had been highly recommended as one of the outstanding areas for a national park. A day was spent in the vicinity of this mountain, and then Mr. Gregg was taken by Mr. Kistler on horseback down the Linville Gorge to view Linville Falls, thence back to Marion. The route followed by Mr. Gregg was the one which the other members of the committee had previously traveled.

Early in November Major Welch visited Cumberland Gap and vicinity and decided that owing to the large number of mineral deposits within the area it would not be practicable to secure the land for park purposes.

Later, at the invitation of Mr. George Freeman Pollock, proprietor of Skyland, Representative Temple, Major Welch, and Colonel Smith visited the Blue Ridge area for a more thorough investigation. Mr. Kelsey, owing to business engagements, was unable to accompany the other committee members, and Mr. Gregg, who had previously made the inspection, declined the invitation. Making Skyland their headquarters, and under the guidance of Mr. Pollock and several local men who were especially interested in securing the Blue Ridge area for a park, the committee were piloted throughout the area, visiting Stony Man, White Oak Canyon, Ragged Mountain, Hawks Bill, Black Rock, and the Rappidan area, where President Hoover's camp is now located. All of this inspection trip was made on horseback, the committee thus being enabled to get a close view of the special scenic features as well as a general bird's-eye view of the area from high points. The inspection trip lasted about a week,

and the members then returned to Washington. During their stay at Skyland the committee was met by Governor E. Lee Trinkle, Representative T. W. Harrison, Judge J. Barton Payne, Robert Sterling Yard, secretary of the National Parks Association, and William J. Showalter, all of whom advocated the location of a national park in the Blue Ridge area.

On November 15 Chairman Temple, accompanied by Colonel Smith, went to Knoxville, Tenn., to inspect the Great Smoky Mountains area, as they were the only members of the committee who had not thoroughly investigated it. They were met by the officials of the Great Smoky Mountains Park Association, headed by W. P. Davis, president of the association, and Col. D. C. Chapman, chairman, who, with other interested Tennesseans, took them over practically the same ground that had been visited by the other members of the committee.

Mr. Kelsey was the only member of the committee who had not visited the Blue Ridge area. He therefore spent December 5 to 12 in inspecting the area extending from Front Royal to Skyland and reported to the committee on December 12 that he was heartily in accord with the other members in recommending that area as a site for a national park.

Chairman Temple called a meeting of the committee for December 12, 1924, at which all the members were present. After the routine business was disposed of the committee took up the question of a report to Secretary Work covering investigations made during the eight months of its existence. The following report was submitted by the chairman of the committee:

The members of the committee appointed by you and designated as the Southern Appalachian National Park Committee, in accordance with your instructions, have spent the past eight months investigating the southern Appalachian mountain region with a view of determining whether areas exist of sufficient size, containing scenery of such grandeur, and at the same time typical of the region, which are suitable to be considered as a site for a national park.

Nature calls us all, and the response of the American people has been expressed in the creation, so far, of 19 national parks. All but one are west of the Mississippi River. The two-thirds of our population living east of the Mississippi has contented itself with a few State parks, not knowing that in the southern Appalachian Ranges there are several areas which fill the definition of a national park, because of beauty and grandeur of scenery, presence of a wonderful variety of trees and plant life, and possibilities of harboring and developing the animal life common in the precolonial days but now nearly extinct.

It has not been generally known that eastern parks of national size might still be acquired by our Government. The committee has been impressed with the amount of interest manifested in all sections of the East in the proposed establishment of a national park in the southern Appalachian region, and this interest has resulted in numerous requests that the committee inspect various areas. Many of these requests pertained to localities that have abundant scenic features, but which are not of sufficient size to warrant their being considered for a national park. Every effort has been made to consider carefully the merits of the various proposed sites, and wherever there was evidence that an area seemed to justify the committee in making a personal inspection, visits have been made either by the committee as a whole or by a delegation from it. Many of the areas in these mountains having unquestionable national-park features are now in the national forests under Government control and so available for recreational use; the committee is not disposed to suggest a change in their present status.

We inspected the northern part of Georgia, whose fine mountains blend with the Highland region of southern North Carolina. We ascended Mount Mitchell

and viewed the splendid Black Mountain Range north of Asheville. We went over carefully the Grandfather Mountain region, which for our study included the beautiful country from Blowing Rock to the remarkable Linville Gorge. We responded to the call of the poet—to see Roan Mountain if we would really see the southern Appalachians. We went to Knoxville and from there to the tops of "the Big Smokies," which carry on their crest the boundary line between North Carolina and Tennessee.

We went into Virginia to inspect that portion of the Blue Ridge on the east side of the Shenandoah Valley which extends from Front Royal to Waynesboro. Some members of the committee also visited Cumberland Gap, southern West Virginia, northern Alabama, and eastern Kentucky. Several areas were found that contained topographic features of great scenic value, where waterfalls, cascades, cliffs, and mountain peaks, with beautiful valleys lying in their midst, gave ample assurance that any or all of these areas were possible for development into a national park which would compare favorably with any of the existing national parks in the West. All that has saved these near-by regions from spoliation for so long a time has been their inaccessibility and the difficulty of profitably exploiting the timber wealth that mantles the steep mountain slopes. With rapidly increasing shortage and mounting values of forest products, however, we face the immediate danger that the last remnants of our primeval forests will be destroyed, however remote on steep mountain side or hidden away in deep lonely cove they may be.

The conditions in the East, where all land is held in private ownership, as compared with those existing in the West when national parks were created from Government-owned lands, have made our problem a difficult one. The density of population, together with the commercial development in progress or in prospect, often practically prohibited the selection of areas of great natural beauty which, if located remote from such development, would have been seriously considered.

It is the opinion of the committee that a park in the East should be located if possible where it will benefit the greatest number, and it should be of sufficient size to meet the needs as a recreational ground for the people not only of to-day but of the coming generations. The committee therefore decided that no site covering less than 500 square miles would be considered. This eliminated a large number of proposed areas and allowed the committee to concentrate its efforts on a few that appeared to be possible sites on account of their size, location, and favorable scenic features. These sites have, therefore, been thoroughly examined.

The committee laid down a few simple requirements for its guidance in seeking an area which could be favorably reported to you for the possible consideration of Congress:

1. Mountain scenery with inspiring perspectives and delightful details.
2. Areas sufficiently extensive and adaptable so that annually millions of visitors might enjoy the benefits of outdoor life and communion with nature without the confusion of overcrowding.
3. A substantial part to contain forests, shrubs, and flowers, and mountain streams, with picturesque cascades and waterfalls overhung with foliage, all untouched by the hand of man.
4. Abundant springs and streams available for camps and fishing.
5. Opportunities for protecting and developing the wild life of the area, and the whole to be a natural museum, preserving outstanding features of the southern Appalachians as they appeared in the early pioneer days.
6. Accessibility by rail and road.

We have found many areas which could well be chosen, but the committee was charged with the responsibility of selecting the best, all things considered. Of these several possible sites the Great Smoky Mountains easily stand first because of the height of the mountains, depth of valleys, ruggedness of the area, and the unexampled variety of trees, shrubs, and plants. The region includes Mount Guyot, Mount LeConte, Clingmans Dome, and Gregory Bald, and may be extended in several directions to include other splendid mountain regions adjacent thereto.

The Great Smokies have some handicaps which will make the development of them into a national park a matter of delay; their very ruggedness and height make road and other park development a serious undertaking as to time and expense. The excessive rainfall also (not yet accurately determined)

is an element for future study and investigation in relation both to the development work, subsequent administration, and recreational use as a national park.

The Blue Ridge of Virginia, one of the sections which had your committee's careful study, while secondary to the Great Smokies in altitude and some other features, constitutes in our judgment the outstanding and logical place for the creation of the first national park in the southern Appalachians. We hope it will be made into a national park and that its success will encourage the Congress to create a second park in the Great Smoky Mountains, which lie some 300 miles distant southwest.

It will surprise the American people to learn that a national park site with fine scenic and recreational qualities can be found within a 3-hour ride of our National Capital and within a day's ride of 40,000,000 of our inhabitants. It has many canyons and gorges with beautiful cascading streams. It has some splendid primeval forests, and the opportunity is there to develop an animal refuge of national importance. Along with the whole southern Appalachians, this area is full of historic interest, the mountains looking down on valleys with their many battlefields of Revolutionary and Civil War periods, and the birthplaces of many of the Presidents of the United States. Within easy access are the famous caverns of the Shenandoah Valley.

The greatest single feature, however, is a possible sky-line drive along the mountain top, following a continuous ridge and looking down westerly on the Shenandoah Valley, from 2,500 to 3,500 feet below, and also commanding a view of the Piedmont Plain stretching easterly to the Washington Monument, which landmark of our National Capital may be seen on a clear day. Few scenic drives in the world could surpass it.

We therefore recommend the creation of a national park in the part of the Blue Ridge of Virginia above described and shown approximately on the accompanying map.

We have not attempted to estimate the cost of acquiring this area, as we are not sure that it falls within the scope of our committee's work. We suggest, however, that a spirit of constructive cooperation on the part of the State of Virginia and among some of the large landowners of this region with whom we have been in touch promises reasonable prices and perhaps a number of donations.

We suggest that if Congress thinks favorably of this proposed park site, a commission be appointed to handle the purchase and to solicit contributions and to arrange condemnation proceedings if the State of Virginia deems it wise. The creation of such a park may well be made contingent on a limited total land cost.

Secretary Work invited the committee, together with Representative Cramton and Director Mather, of the National Park Service, to a dinner at the Wardman Park Hotel on December 12. At this dinner the question of the name to be given to the proposed park in case it was located in the Blue Ridge area was discussed, and Mr. Kelsey suggested the name "Shenandoah," which met with the unanimous approval of those present. There was no question as to giving the area in North Carolina and Tennessee, long known as the Great Smoky Mountains, the name "Great Smoky Mountains National Park."

In the later part of January Major Welch accompanied Governor Peay, several senators and assemblymen from the Tennessee legislature, the highway commissioner, State geologist, State forester, and other State officials, and Colonel Townsend, president of the Little River Lumber Co., to the Little River Lumber Co.'s holdings, which lie within the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park, where they discussed with Colonel Townsend the question of the purchase of 80,000 acres of that company's land proposed for inclusion in the national park.

Secretary Work, following the suggestion made in the committee's report, recommended to Congress that a commission be authorized by them to investigate areas in the southern Appalachian Mountain

region with a view to selecting a national park and that sufficient funds be appropriated to carry on this work.

On January 27, 1925, Representative Temple introduced a bill in the House, and Senator Swanson in the Senate, to provide for securing lands in the southern Appalachian Mountains and the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky for perpetual preservation as national parks. This bill passed the Senate February 12 and the House February 16, and was approved by the President February 21, 1925. (Public No. 437, 68th Cong.) It reads as follows:

An Act To provide for the securing of lands in the southern Appalachian Mountains and in the Mammoth Cave regions of Kentucky for perpetual preservation as national parks

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to determine the boundaries and area of such portion of the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia lying east of the South Fork of the Shenandoah River and between Front Royal on the north and Waynesboro on the south as may be recommended by him to be acquired and administered as a national park, to be known as the Shenandoah National Park, and such portion of the Smoky Mountains lying in Tennessee and North Carolina as may be recommended by him to be acquired and administered as a national park, to be known as the Smoky Mountains National Park, and in the Mammoth Cave regions of Kentucky and also such other lands in the southern Appalachian Mountains as in his judgment should be acquired and administered as national parks, and to receive definite offers of donations of lands and moneys, and to secure such options as in his judgment may be considered reasonable and just for the purchase of lands within said boundaries, and to report to Congress thereon: *Provided,* That the Secretary of the Interior may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, appoint a commission of five members, composed of a representative of the Interior Department and four national park experts, said four members to serve without compensation.

Sec. 2. A sum sufficient to secure options and to pay the necessary expenses of the commission in carrying out the provisions of this Act, including the salary of one clerk to the commission at a rate not to exceed \$2,000 per annum, necessary traveling expenses of the members of the commission, and \$10 per diem in lieu of actual cost of subsistence, in all not to exceed \$20,000, is hereby authorized to be appropriated.

Immediately after the passage of this bill Secretary Work appointed all the members who had served on his informal committee previously, again designating Representative Temple as chairman. Miss E. Louise Belcher was appointed as clerk to the commission. She was later succeeded, upon her resignation on October 31, 1929, by Mrs. Dorothea H. Erbach, of the National Park Service. Chairman Temple called a meeting of the commission for March 5, 1925. At this meeting Mr. William C. Gregg was elected vice chairman, and Col. Glenn S. Smith was again elected secretary.

On March 7, 1925, the Northern Virginia Park Association held a banquet at the City Club, Washington, D. C., in celebration of the passage of the bill authorizing the selection of a national park site in the Blue Ridge region. The honor guests present were Representative Temple, Major Welch, and Colonel Smith, members of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission; Director Mather, of the National Park Service; Senators Swanson and Glass and Representative Harrison, of Virginia; Mr. Helmer H. Bryn, minister from Norway; Colonel Bell, engineer, District Commissioner; Representative Abernethy, of North Carolina; and Robert Sterling Yard, secretary of the National Parks Association.

The chairman called a meeting of the commission for April 28, 1925. All the members were present except Mr. Kelsey. It was agreed that the commission should visit the Mammoth Cave area May 21, 22, and 23, and that as many of the members as possible would arrange to attend the fifth annual conference on State parks to be held at Skyland, Va., May 25 to 28, inclusive. Secretary Work accepted an invitation to be present at this conference. This constituted his first visit to any of the sites proposed for national parks by the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission.

The commission arrived at Louisville on May 21 and were met at the train by members of the entertainment committee of the Mammoth Cave National Park Association. The commission was given an informal luncheon at the Pendergrass Club by this association, after which they were taken about the city. They were entertained at dinner at the Brown Hotel by the Louisville Automobile Club. Several hundred guests were present at this dinner, including Hon. William J. Fields, Governor of Kentucky; Congressman M. H. Thatcher, of the Louisville district; Edward S. Jonett, vice president and general counsel of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Co.; and members of the Mammoth Cave National Park Association.

On May 22 the commission was taken to Cave City, from which they were taken in automobiles to visit the area proposed for a national park and the numerous caves lying within the area. That evening a dinner was given to the commission at the hotel in Cave City. The next day the commission continued their investigation, including a trip on the Green River. After the completion of this investigation they returned to Louisville and left for Washington.

On May 25 Secretary Work, accompanied by Colonel Smith, attended the fifth national conference on State parks at Skyland, where Major Welch and Mr. Gregg were already in attendance. The Secretary addressed the conference as follows:

Man's ingenuity has led him into many diverse lines of thought. One of the most remarkable products of his mathematical mind was the discovery of the chronological cycles. These cycles are based on the recurrence of the same astronomical event after the lapse of a regular period of years. They cause us to realize that our universe is laid out according to a definite plan and help establish our faith and respect for the Architect.

In the most obvious operations of nature we also see this idea of the cycle manifested, as in the ebb and flow of the tide, the seasonal changes, and the budding and falling of the leaves. Man, in his small way, also finds himself running around in circles. The cycle of man's life is easy to follow and was well expressed by the great writer who said that time's glory is to show the grandmother daughters of her daughter, to make the child a man and the man a child.

In our study of man's composite existence, as written in history, we find civilizations rising in splendor from out of the shadow, only to dissolve into the nothingness from whence they came, after completing their cycle of existence. Ruins are superimposed upon ruins, and all are now covered by the dust of the ages.

This brings to mind a side light on one of the influences which may be remotely responsible for this meeting here to-day. I wonder whether the great outdoor movement now sweeping the country is not after all only the operation of the law of cycles. One of the earliest impulses of man is his instinct for shelter. Long before written history humanity was struggling for protection from the elements, and this instinct, from necessity becoming spontaneous in its inception, has continued down through the years till now. It is second only to food in the struggle for self-preservation and contributing to comfortable existence. Primitive man must have been decimated in large numbers

by the fury of the elements before he learned to build houses for himself, and it took him thousands of years to attain even the most modest structures compared to those we now call homes.

The early colonists in Virginia, when they transformed the wilderness into civilized communities, responded to the same instinct as primitive man and in a degree repeated his struggle for shelter. We all remember the accounts of their hardships and the efforts of their vigorous leader, Capt. John Smith, to persuade them of the necessity to labor with their hands if they would lift themselves out of their predicament. Those first log cabins have since molded, and in their place have arisen more modern structures.

We have gradually established an artificial life dependent upon the indoors, until now to complete the cycle we are turning back to the simpler pleasures found in the woods, in contact with nature. There is no action without reaction. It may be the urge of the returning cycle that is drawing our people from the conveniences of modern homes, which it has taken so long to design and build, to the more natural surroundings of the outdoors. Residents of modern palaces sleep out on the porch and our American Indians refuse to sleep in houses built for them. It may be the call of the primitive in us rebelling against the hothouse existence to which we have become accustomed; it may be the instinct of self-preservation working to insure the survival of the species by the disciplinary effect of resistance to the elements, sometimes seen in those who go out to walk in a storm; or it may be only an effort to add variety to our daily round. But whatever may be the immediate cause of this outdoor movement, back of it all may be the operation of another phase of the cycle of existence. We are attempting after a fashion to complete a cycle begun by the forebears of those in this region who struggled to overcome the forests and wild life we now seek to conserve.

And here in the Blue Ridge of Virginia, in the very heart of civilized America, lies preserved for our use a bit of nature that is identical with the virgin territory found by Capt. John Smith and his heroic followers. Its very inaccessibility has kept it intact, and in the hurried distractions of modern life your forefathers have not had the time to conquer this wilderness, which is one of the few remaining in the East. It is now, I hope, to be dedicated to the encouragement of our instinctive tendency to return to nature and the outdoors.

The whole national-park movement is based on this desire of man to commune with nature. More than a million and a half people last year visited the 19 national parks and 32 national monuments guarded by the Department of the Interior. The geysers and buffalo of Yellowstone, the gorges of Grand Canyon, the giant trees of Sequoia, the glaciers of Mount Rainier, the falls of Yosemite, the prehistoric dwellings of Mesa Verde, the living volcano of Lassen Peak, and the petrified forests of Arizona have attracted millions of people and will continue to draw them westward in the years to come. It is time that other primeval spots in the East containing similar natural wonders be preserved for the benefit of this densely populated section.

The opportunity for State participation in reserving smaller areas for park purposes has developed from the growing popularity of the national parks. Director Mather's slogan, "A State park every hundred miles," has spread like a contagion. It would permit the motorist traveling across the country primarily to visit the national parks to break his journey in a State park about every day's drive. The idea in the minds of many of us is that the National Park Service by the maintenance of large areas in appropriate sections should form the backbone of an interstate park chain of which State parks would form links. Some of the smaller national parks and national monuments should revert to State control and become State pride. This plan should include the taking over by them of limited areas of a few hundred square miles or less suitable for park purposes. There are small areas—for example, the internationally known Cumberland Gap, the Carlsbad Cave in New Mexico, all potential, each of absorbing interest to the naturalist and financial assets to States of great possibilities—that might well be developed by the States in line with this policy.

But scenic attractions are not sufficient to bring people to a State in large numbers if highways remain unimproved. This has been the experience of the West, and it will be the experience of the East if the park system is to be extended. Many States in the West long ago realized the financial returns from good roads as feeders for the national parks, and we now have a chain of highways that enable tourists to go from park to park in safety and comfort. Linked with these national parks by good roads and cooperative administration

should be smaller parks and monuments patterned after the large areas but under State jurisdiction.

To further the State park idea, which is the inspiration of this gathering, I hope it is unnecessary for me to reiterate my desire to support your efforts along these lines. In doing so let us not overlook the underlying purpose of the outdoor movement, which is to give us a momentary glimpse of the simpler things of life, to increase our appreciation and understanding of nature, to bring us closer to the scheme of the creation, and educate our children "through Nature up to Nature's God."

The groves were God's first temples. Ere man learned
To hew the shaft and lay the architrave
And spread the roof above them—ere he framed
The lofty vault, to gather and roll back
The sound of anthems; in the darkling wood,
Amidst the cool and silence, he knelt down
And offered to the Mightiest solemn thanks
And supplication.

Immediately after his address the Secretary and Colonel Smith returned to Luray and thence to Washington by private car, furnished by the president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

On the conclusion of the conference at Skyland Mr. Gregg proceeded to Bryson City, N. C., with a view of making further investigations in the Great Smoky Mountains area from the North Carolina side. The special objects of his visit were to determine the feasibility of locating a scenic drive along the backbone of the high mountain range and to determine what amount of damage the numerous lumber companies were doing by cutting timber in the proposed area.

On July 7, 1925, a meeting of the North Carolina Park Commission, the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, representatives of the lumber companies, and residents of several near-by towns was held at the Battery Park Hotel, Asheville, with State Senator Mark Squires presiding. All the members of the Southern Appalachian Park Commission were present except Mr. Kelsey. A discussion which lasted throughout the day on the possibility of securing the lands in the Great Smoky Mountains area that at the time were being lumbered was carried on by the members of the commission and the representatives of the lumber companies. It was evident from this discussion that strong opposition existed to the park idea and also that lumbering could not be stopped except through injunction proceedings or condemnation by the State of lands proposed for this park, if the area was selected. Members of the commission visited the officials of the lumber companies and endeavored to convince them that any further cutting in this area would injure the chances of its being selected for a national park, but met with very little encouragement from any of these officials.

During the first week of July Colonel Smith, at the request of Senator Mark Squires, chairman of the North Carolina Park Commission, met that commission at Bryson City, N. C., for a conference. The North Carolina commission had spent several days in visiting the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park area, as a great deal of pressure was being brought to bear on that commission for them to recommend the Linville Gorge and Grandfather Mountain area in preference to the Smoky Mountains area. After they had visited several of the high peaks on the North Carolina side of the Great Smokies and viewed the area proposed for a park,

the members of the commission were unanimous in stating that there was no question as to the area they had just investigated being the most suitable for the proposed park.

Chairman Temple called the third meeting of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission July 18, 1925. All the members except Major Welch were present. The primary cause for the holding of this meeting was the opposition that had developed on the part of a great number of landowners in the Smoky Mountains area to the establishment of a park there. It was decided that the commission would give out the following statements:

Owing to the opposition of certain business interests in North Carolina to the original plan for a national park in the Great Smoky Mountains, the commission may find it necessary to modify its boundary as originally contemplated and consider the advisability of the creation of a national park which will lie largely in the State of Tennessee.

The original Tennessee area is large and scenic; about one-half of the North Carolina project originally designated seems available, but the holdings of two or three of the largest timber corporations are difficult to acquire as virgin areas; if they are not secured until after the timber is cut off, they will not be fit for a national park for recreational use. The companies referred to are at the present time engaged in active operations on some of the higher elevations and are removing the spruce and balsam forests in their entirety. The spruce and balsam areas which have been cut over do not reforest themselves and immediately become covered with an almost impenetrable thicket of blackberry and other undesirable growths peculiarly susceptible to forest fires.

The commission also passed the following resolution:

That when the commission makes its final report and recommendations on the proposed national park areas that it designate the outside boundary of these areas (somewhat as the Weeks Commission designates forest purchase areas) with the purpose of securing at once as much as possible of the designated territory to be established as a national park; the remainder of the designated areas to be acquired as rapidly as possible.

At the request of Col. D. C. Chapman, vice chairman of the Tennessee Conservation Association, a delegation from North Carolina and Tennessee, composed of Colonel Chapman, Mr. W. M. Clemens, and Mr. Russell Hanlon, of Knoxville; Dr. E. C. Brooks, of Raleigh; Hon. Plato Ebbs, of Asheville; and Dr. Dan R. Bryson and Mr. Horace Kephart, of Bryson City, met Messrs. Gregg, Kelsey, and Smith on August 24, 1925, at the office of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission in the Interior Department Building. The visiting delegation desired to consult the commissioners regarding a proposed cooperation between the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), of Virginia, and the North Carolina and Tennessee Park Associations for raising funds for the purchase of land for the two parks.

It was evident from the discussions at this meeting that there was a conflict of opinion as to the advisability of the three States trying to cooperate in the raising of funds for the respective parks. The members of the commission pointed out to the visiting delegates that they could not, as a commission, be drawn into any controversy between the States as to the method to be adopted for raising funds, but the commission was willing and anxious to assist them by advice or in any other way to bring about harmony between the representatives of these areas, and suggested a conference at which they might come to some understanding as to the action that might be followed regarding the raising of money outside of the States and the method

by which this money would be expended in the purchase of land in the two areas should they agree to pool their funds. The commission informed the members of the delegation that the Virginia association had not consulted the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission regarding its methods for raising funds. Furthermore, the commission stated that that was the business of the respective States and not one in which the commission desired to be in any way connected or involved.

On the evening of August 24, 1925, a conference was held in the Evening Star Building, Washington, between the representatives from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia for the purpose of giving the delegates an opportunity to discuss the possibility of a joint campaign for raising money outside the respective States for the purchase of the two parks. The members of the Southern Appalachian Park Commission were invited to this conference, and Messrs. Gregg and Kelsey and Colonel Smith attended.

Colonel Benchoff, president of the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), opened the meeting.

Colonel Chapman, vice chairman of the Great Smoky Mountain Conservation Association, explained the purpose of their meeting with Virginia representatives for this conference, and stated that it was the desire of Tennessee and North Carolina to join with Virginia in the drive for funds for the two proposed national parks located in their respective States; that Virginia might raise what funds she could within her own State for the proposed park but that when she went outside of Virginia it was the desire of the Great Smoky Park proponents to raise the funds on a 50-50 basis—that the interests of the two parks were identical, that nothing would be gained by one area having an advantage over the other, and that it was better to keep on an even keel and go in together to get the two parks, for competition in the matter was unwise. He stated that the Great Smoky Park people were ready and anxious to cooperate if an agreement acceptable to both sections could be reached.

A general discussion of plans for cooperating in the raising of funds for the two parks followed, and Mr. T. L. Farrar, of Charlottesville, Va., explained the plan under which his corporation intended to work in the State of Virginia. No agreement was reached at this meeting regarding cooperation between the States, but plans were perfected for a conference to be held at Richmond, Va., on September 9, 1925, to which the Great Smoky Mountain delegates of North Carolina and Tennessee were invited, to present their plan of cooperation in concrete form.

On August 25, 1925, Mr. Gregg called a meeting of the commission, which was held in its rooms. Messrs. Gregg, Smith, and Kelsey were present, Major Welch and Representative Temple being in the West on other park business. The object of the meeting was to decide on the advisability of the commission's employing its own agents to obtain options on land within the proposed national park areas. It was decided that the commission should employ five men of experience to obtain options, as suggested, to be paid for out of funds of the commission, such employment not to exceed 30 days, and the total amount allowed for this purpose not to exceed \$1,500. Colonel Smith was authorized to employ these men. After a brief trial with two men appointed for the purpose of getting options

within the Shenandoah area, it was found that this plan was going to be more expensive than had been expected and, furthermore, that the results were not satisfactory. This work was then discontinued.

On September 9, 1925, representatives of four organizations, organized to further the creation of national parks in the southern Appalachian Mountains, met in the Hotel Jefferson, Richmond, to decide, if possible, on a basis for mutual cooperation for a nationwide movement, for the raising of funds to purchase land for the proposed parks.

The Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, the Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission of Tennessee, and the North Carolina Park Commission were guests of the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), of Virginia, at a luncheon at which Governor Byrd and Col. Leroy T. Hodges, of Richmond, managing director of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce, were honor guests and speakers.

At the joint executive meeting held immediately afterwards it was decided that, while each State association should work independently within its own borders, the claims of twin national parks, as designated in the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains by the commission, would be presented to the Nation as one object. Every American outside the States of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, including the District of Columbia, would be shown the advantages of presenting twin park areas to the Government at one and the same time.

Those present at this meeting were Mr. Gregg, Mr. Kelsey, Colonel Smith, and Major Welch, representing the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission; Mr. W. P. Davis, Gen. C. F. Spence, and Col. D. C. Chapman, of Knoxville, representing the Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission of Tennessee; and Dr. E. C. Brooks, of Raleigh, N. C., Senator Mark Squires, of Lenoir, N. C., and Senator Plato Elbs, of Asheville, N. C., representing the North Carolina Park Commission. The Shenandoah National Park Association was represented by the following members of its board of directors: Messrs. H. J. Benchoff, Woodstock; Thomas B. McAdams, Richmond; Hollis Rinchart, Charlottesville; D. P. Wine, Harrisonburg; L. Ferdinand Zerkel, Luray; R. H. Angell, Roanoke; H. H. Harris, Lynchburg; C. N. Hoover, New Market; Lee Long, Dante; Hugh E. Naylor, Front Royal; W. A. Ryan, Winchester; and Dr. Joseph H. Smith, Petersburg.

At this meeting the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the associations agree upon a plan of cooperation for the general campaign outside of the States of Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia, which is to include the District of Columbia.

Any campaigns in either of these three States above mentioned are to be conducted by their respective State agencies, and funds so raised are to be controlled by said agencies.

Expenses and guaranties of the general campaign outside of the above-mentioned States are to be borne by the two parks on a 50-50 basis, respectively Great Smoky and Shenandoah.

Division of funds from the general campaign is to be made on a 50-50 basis except that those designated shall go to the area designated by the donor and shall not be included in the division.

That the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.) be requested to revise its contract to apply only to the State of Virginia and the District of

Columbia and that the new association be organized for a general campaign and authorized to enter into a contract, incorporating into the contract the terms existing in the present contract with reference to the solicitation of funds outside of the above-mentioned States of Tennessee, North Carolina, and Virginia, including the District of Columbia, the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.) being relieved of this portion of the contract now existing, provided it can be mutually agreed upon.

It was decided that the name of the new association should be The Appalachian National Park Association (Inc.), and it was further decided that a committee of 5, consisting of 1 representative of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, 1 from Tennessee, 1 from North Carolina, and 2 from Virginia be authorized to make application for charter and incorporation of this association.

Immediately after the general meeting of the representatives of the three States, Vice Chairman Gregg called a meeting of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission in the Hotel Jefferson to act on the request made at the joint meeting that the commission should designate one of its members to serve on the committee of five, for the purpose of coordinating the efforts of the three States in procuring funds from sources outside of the States concerned for the purchase of land within the proposed parks. Major Welch was appointed by the vice chairman to represent the commission on this committee, the other members of which were Messrs. H. J. Benchoff, J. H. Smith, Mark Squires, and D. C. Chapman. Major Welch was instructed to request the committee to refer to the commission before final action any matter which might affect the policy of the commission.

On September 29, 1925, a meeting of park enthusiasts was held at Charlottesville, Va. Colonel Smith addressed this meeting, enumerating the benefits that Virginia would derive from having a national park within her borders. Several hundred people attended this meeting, which was held in the National Guard Armory.

During November and December members of the commission were called upon to visit several cities in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee to address meetings that were being held to advocate the establishment of national parks in the Great Smoky and Shenandoah areas and to solicit funds.

Representative Temple called a meeting of the commission January 8, 1926, to be held in the office of the commission. All members were present.

Before opening the meeting the commission received Col. H. J. Benchoff, president of the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), of Virginia; Senator Mark Squires, chairman of the North Carolina Park Commission; and Col. D. C. Chapman, chairman of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission, who were invited to give reports on the progress of their campaigns in the States they represented. They discussed the serious situation which confronted them in their endeavor to raise sufficient funds to purchase land for the proposed parks and outlined a suggested plan for starting their nation-wide campaign outside of the States for obtaining necessary funds. Colonel Benchoff reported that favorable progress was made in securing pledges for contributions in Virginia. The commission urged the chairmen of the three State or-

ganizations to endeavor to obtain funds as rapidly as possible, before the prices of the land should become so high as to be almost prohibitive.

In the afternoon the commission met, Vice Chairman Gregg acting in the absence of Chairman Temple. Major Welch offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission respectfully and earnestly request Mr. Adolph S. Ochs, publisher of the New York Times, to accept the chairmanship of the Appalachian National Parks Association (Inc.), for the purpose of soliciting and receiving gifts of money and land for the creation of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in Tennessee and North Carolina, and the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia, and that a committee representing this commission, the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission, the North Carolina Park Commission, and the Shenandoah National Park Association of Virginia call on Mr. Ochs and present the details of this proposed movement and urge his acceptance of this office.

It was arranged to have several prominent people write Mr. Ochs urging that he accede to this request.

On January 9, 1926, the commission resumed its session at the Cosmos Club, Washington, with all members present. At this time the question of visiting the Mammoth Cave area was brought up, and Colonel Smith and Mr. Kelsey were designated to investigate this area and make a report, also to obtain additional information regarding the amount of funds already pledged for the purchase of land in the area.

During the early part of February, Major Welch, at the request of the North Carolina Park Commission, visited Salisbury, Charlotte, Gastonia, Lenoir, Monroe, and Raleigh, addressing gatherings to assist the State officials in arousing enthusiasm in their campaign for raising funds. He also attended a large meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at Norfolk, Va., which had in view the raising of funds for the purchase of the Shenandoah National Park.

On March 26, Governor Byrd of Virginia called the directors of the Shenandoah National Park Association to Richmond for a conference at his office. Colonel Smith was invited and was present. At this meeting the governor received a report of the activities of the Shenandoah National Park Association and outlined the plans he had for submitting to the legislature a request for funds with which to purchase land within the proposed park area.

On March 30 the members of the commission were invited to attend a dinner of local business men at the Washington Hotel, Washington, with a view to raising funds in the city of Washington for the purchase of land in the proposed Shenandoah National Park area, and Colonel Smith and Chairman Temple attended. At this dinner Chairman Temple; Senator Swanson, of Virginia; Dr. W. J. Showalter, assistant director of the National Geographic Magazine; and several District officials made speeches.

On April 5, Chairman Temple called a meeting of the commission to write the report on the Shenandoah, Great Smoky Mountains, and Mammoth Cave areas. All members were present except Mr. Gregg, who was in Europe.

The commissioners spent April 5 to 8, inclusive, in drawing up their report. Before submitting it to the Secretary of the Interior Mr. Gregg was informed of its main points by cable and authorized

the secretary of the commission to sign the report for him. The report as submitted read as follows:

The members of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, appointed in accordance with the act of February 21, 1925 (Public No. 437, 68th Cong.), have complied with the requirements of the act and with your instructions and desire to report as follows:

We suggest that reference be made to the report of your special committee submitted December 12, 1924, which gave the reasons for definitely recommending the Shenandoah National Park area and the Smoky Mountains National Park area as worthy of being acquired as national parks. In conformity with the requirements of the above-cited act of Congress, members of the commission have during the past year made a more careful study and investigation of these and other areas and have found much additional evidence of the eminent worthiness of these two areas for acquisition as national parks. Your commission has also made a careful examination of the Mammoth Cave region of Kentucky and believes sufficient reasons exist to warrant its acceptance as a national park if requirements are met as outlined in this report. Below are briefly outlined some of these reasons.

Mammoth Cave is the best known and probably the largest of a remarkable group of limestone caverns, 20 or more of which have been opened up and explored to a greater or less extent. Included in this group are Colossal Cavern, Great Onyx Cave, new entrance to Mammoth Cave, Salts Cave, Proctor Cave, Long Avenue Cave, Great Crystal Cave, Cave of the Hundred Domes, Diamond Cave, Mammoth Onyx Cave, Dixon Cave, and others, all of which contain beautiful and wonderful formations. There is good evidence that many more caverns yet to be discovered exist in this immediate territory, and it seems likely that most, if not all, of this entire group of caverns eventually will be found to be connected by passageways forming a great underground labyrinth of remarkable geological and recreational interest, perhaps unparalleled elsewhere. The territory which embraces this network of caverns consists of about 15,000 acres, or an area approximately 4 miles wide and 6 miles long. Another geological feature of much interest is found in the thousands of curious sink holes of varying sizes through which much of the drainage is carried to underground streams, there being few surface brooks or creeks.

The Mammoth Cave area is situated in one of the most rugged portions of the great Mississippi Valley and contains areas of apparently original forests, which, though comparatively small in extent, are of prime value from an ecological and scientific standpoint and should be preserved for all time in their virgin state for study and enjoyment. Much of the proposed area is now clothed in forest, through which flows the beautiful and navigable Green River and its branch, the Nolin River.

All this offers exceptional opportunity for developing a great national recreational park of outstanding service in the very heart of our Nation's densest population and at a time when the need is increasingly urgent and most inadequately provided for.

Your commission has carefully investigated the above-recommended areas, with a view of selecting on the ground the most suitable boundaries or limits of purchase area for the proposed parks. Your commission, through the cooperation of the Army Air Service, obtained airplane photographs of the Shenandoah and Smoky Mountain park areas, and these photographs proved to be a great help in determining suitable boundaries.

In accordance with your instructions, the associations and organizations in the States in which these national park areas are located were informed that the lands within the areas must be presented to the United States Government in fee simple before such areas could become national parks. On May 27, 1925, identical letters were addressed by the commission to the leading groups in these States, suggesting that they definitely organize to carry out the requirements of the commission and stating further that "to facilitate this work the commission considers it necessary that an organization state-wide in scope be incorporated to act for the citizens and organizations of such State for the purpose of centralizing their efforts; * * * and in order that it may be custodian of moneys, lands, and options for the purchase of lands within the proposed park areas to be held in trust for park purposes." In compliance with the suggestions of the commission the following organizations were incorporated: In Virginia the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.); in Tennessee the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association;

in North Carolina the Great Smoky Mountains (Inc.); and in Kentucky the Mammoth Cave National Park Association. These organizations have been engaged in obtaining donations, both of money and land, and options, with the following results.

The Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), reported April 3, 1926, that the total amount raised in donations is \$1,249,154, and a minimum net sum of \$1,200,000 for the purchase of the proposed Shenandoah National Park. The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association and the Great Smoky Mountains (Inc.), reported April 1, 1926, that Tennessee and North Carolina have raised jointly the total sum of \$1,066,693.91. The Mammoth Cave National Park Association reported April 1, 1926, two donations of property aggregating 3,629.13 acres, of which 1,324.10 acres are to be covered by fee simple title and 2,305.03 acres by cave rights. Included in this area are the caves exhibited by the Colossal Cavern and by the New Entrance, but not including Mammoth Cave.

In addition, these organizations reported that they have obtained many signed options covering considerable acreage. The Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association, the Great Smoky Mountains (Inc.), and the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), have entered into an agreement to carry on a national campaign to procure additional and sufficient funds to purchase substantially all the lands within the purchase areas of the designated Shenandoah National Park and the Smoky Mountains National Park.

As the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association (Tennessee) and the Great Smoky Mountains (Inc.) (North Carolina), jointly, and the Shenandoah National Park Association (Inc.), have complied with the requirements submitted to them by your commission, we therefore recommend that the two areas designated as above indicated be made national parks and administered as such when 250,000 acres in each of them have been transferred in fee simple to the United States. We also recommend that the Mammoth Cave National Park be established when the Mammoth Cave National Park Association can transfer to the United States in fee simple one-third of the proposed area (approximately 20,000 acres), including all the caves, and can assure you that steps will be taken to obtain additional and sufficient funds to purchase substantially all the lands within the designated boundaries.

Boundaries: The boundaries recommended in this report, being largely natural and easily determined, are such as to include all the area that the commission hopes will ultimately be acquired as national parks, it being well understood that there may be holdings within the recommended areas near these boundaries which may on further inspection be found impracticable or not economical to include.

(a) Description of approximate boundaries of the Shenandoah National Park area (all in Virginia):

Beginning at a point about 1 mile west of Front Royal at the highway crossing of the Norfolk & Western Railway and thence following the railroad right of way in a southwesterly direction to Kimble, thence following public highways via Valleyburg to the intersection of the highway and the Norfolk & Western Railway at a point about 1 mile west of Marksville, thence again following in a southwesterly direction the Norfolk & Western Railway right of way to a point about 4 miles north of Shenandoah, thence following public highways along the foothills of the Blue Ridge and in part along the Norfolk & Western Railway right of way to a point about one-quarter of a mile east of Waynesboro Junction, thence following the Midland Trail in a southerly and easterly direction to Afton, thence following the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway to an intersection of public highways with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway about 1 mile west of Crozet, thence following public highways in a northeasterly direction via Whitehall, Nortonville, Stumardsville, Wolfstown, Criglersville, Hughesville, Sperryville, and Washington (Va.), back to the beginning near Front Royal; this area all being in the State of Virginia and containing approximately 521,000 acres as shown on the accompanying topographic maps of the Geological Survey known as the Luray, Gordonsville, Harrisonburg, and Woodstock sheets.

(b) Description of approximate boundaries of the Smoky Mountains National Park area (all in North Carolina and Tennessee):

Beginning at a point on the south or left bank of the Pigeon River in Cocke County, Tenn., as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Mount Guyot sheet, opposite Bluffton, and thence following the said south bank of the Pigeon River upstream to the

mouth of Cataloochee Creek in Haywood County, N. C., thence upstream along said Cataloochee Creek to the mouth of Little Cataloochee Creek, where the highway crosses said creek, thence in a southerly direction along this highway up the valley of Cataloochee Creek and Caldwell Fork to the end of said highway, thence up said Caldwell Fork to its head on the boundary line between the counties of Haywood and Swain, in North Carolina, thence in a southerly direction along said county boundary line to Soco Bald, to the corner of Jackson, Swain, and Haywood Counties, thence along county line to Balsam Gap as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Cowee sheet, where the Appalachian Scenic Highway intersects the said county line, thence southwesterly along said highway to a point where this highway intersects the right of way line of the Asheville and Murphy branch of the Southern Railway, thence along the northern boundary of said right of way to a point near Sylva where a highway crosses said right of way, thence along the said highway southerly and westerly down the Tuckasegee River Valley to the forks of the highway north of Wilmot and at the southwestern foot of the Pilot Balsams, thence northeasterly along this highway to Soco Creek, thence westerly along this highway to the boundary line between Jackson and Swain Counties, N. C., where this boundary joins the Oconalufy River, thence along this highway across the said river and westerly down said river valley through Birdtown and to Coopers Creek near its junction with the Tuckasegee River, thence along this highway westerly down the valley of said river to its junction with the Little Tennessee River, thence westerly along the highway down the valley of the Little Tennessee River, as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Nantahala sheet; thence along said highway across the boundary between Swain County, N. C., and Blount County, Tenn., and along said highway as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Knoxville sheet, down the valley of the said river across Abram Creek and to the point where such highway bears northerly and easterly up Happy Valley and to Montvale Springs, thence along the highway northerly to Sixmile Creek, thence northeasterly to Seaton, thence along highway to Little River at Gamble Store, thence along the highway which follows approximately the northeasterly base of the Chilhowee Mountains to the Blount-Sevier County line, thence to the forks of said highway on Bridge Creek, thence along the highway easterly to Guess Creek and along said highway southerly up the valley of Guess Creek to its head, thence southerly to Walden Creek and easterly down the valley of this creek to the valley of the West Fork of the Little Pigeon River, thence along the highway southerly up the valley of the West Fork of Little Pigeon River to Gatlinburg, and along the western and southern limits of Gatlinburg along the highway easterly across Roaring Fork up Dudley Creek and to the Right Prong of Little Pigeon River, thence along the highway down the valley of this river through Emerts Cove, as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Mount Guyot sheet; thence along highway northerly down the valley of said river to the forks of said highway at the west end of Webb Mountain, thence along the highway easterly between Chestnut Ridge and Webb Mountain to Dunn Creek and along the highway up Dunn Creek to junction of highway one-half mile west of Sevier and Cocke County line, thence easterly along this highway through Sutton to the Appalachian Scenic Highway opposite Bluffton, the point of beginning. This area contains approximately 704,000 acres.

(c) Description of approximate boundaries of the Mammoth Cave National Park area (all in Kentucky):

Beginning at a point on the Brownsville Pike at Liberty, as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Mammoth Cave sheet, thence following said Brownsville Pike to Pis, thence leaving said pike and following highways in northerly direction to a point about one-fourth mile west of Turnhole Ferry on Green River, thence westerly following highways via Silent Grove School and Arthur to a point on the Brownsville Pike near Brownsville, as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Brownsville sheet, thence northerly following roadways via Indian Hill to Indian Creek Landing on Green River, thence crossing Green River and continuing in a northerly direction following highways and roads via Poplar Springs School, Sweden, and Woodside, as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey known as the Leitchfield sheet, to a point on Nolich River opposite Whistle Mountain, thence following Nolich River

to Ky Rock, thence northerly following roadways to Washington Meredith Ford on Nolich River, as shown on the standard topographic map of the Geological Survey, known as the Cub Run sheet, thence crossing Nolich River easterly following roads and highways via Cove Hollow School, Straw, Sanders Store, Cox Store, Denison, and Big Woods School to a point on highway about one-half mile south of Dry Run School, thence in a southerly direction following Dry Run to a point where it joins Green River, thence following Green River about one-half mile to a small island, thence leaving Green River, southerly following roads and highways via Lick Log School and Iron Springs School to Highland Springs, thence westerly following the highway via Chaumont and Cedar Hill School to the beginning. This area contains approximately 70,618 acres.

On April 9 the members of the commission called on the Secretary of the Interior to present their report and were congratulated by Secretary Work on what they had accomplished.

Secretary Work, on April 14, submitted a copy of the commission's report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the President of the Senate. On the same day Chairman Temple introduced in the House a bill "to provide for the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park in the State of Virginia and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, and for other purposes," which was also introduced in the Senate by Senator Swanson of Virginia. This bill was passed by the Senate and House and was approved by the President on March 22, 1926. (Public, No. 268, 69th Cong.) It reads as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to lands within the areas hereinafter referred to shall have been vested in the United States in fee simple there shall be, and are hereby established, dedicated, and set apart as public parks for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, the tract of land in the Blue Ridge, in the State of Virginia, being approximately five hundred and twenty-one thousand acres, recommended by the Secretary of the Interior in his report of April 14, 1926, which area, or any part or parts thereof as may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions hereof, shall be known as the Shenandoah National Park; and the tract of land in the Great Smoky Mountains in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, being approximately seven hundred and four thousand acres, recommended by the Secretary of the Interior in his report of April 14, 1926, which area, or any part or parts thereof as may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions hereof, shall be known as the Great Smoky Mountains National Park: *Provided,* That the United States shall not purchase by appropriation of public moneys any land within the aforesaid areas, but that such lands shall be secured by the United States only by public or private donation.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to accept as hereinafter provided on behalf of the United States title to the lands referred to in the previous section hereof and to be purchased with the \$1,200,000 which has been subscribed by the State of Virginia and the Shenandoah National Park Association of Virginia and with other contributions for the purchase of lands in the Shenandoah National Park area, and with the \$1,000,000 which has been subscribed by the State of Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association and by the Great Smoky Mountains (Incorporated) (North Carolina) and with other contributions for the purchase of lands in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park area.

Sec. 3. That the administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid parks shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the act of August 25, 1916, entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," as amended: *Provided,* That the provisions of the act approved June 10, 1920, known as the Federal water-power act, shall not apply to these parks: *And provided further,* That the minimum area to be administered and protected by the National Park Service shall be for the Shenandoah National Park area two hundred and fifty thousand acres and for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park area one hundred and fifty thousand acres: *Provided further,* That no general development of either of these areas shall be undertaken until

a major portion of the remainder in such area shall have been accepted by said Secretary.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior may for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act employ the commission authorized by the act approved February 21, 1925.

On May 8, 1926, Representative Thatcher introduced in the House a bill "to provide for the establishment of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes." The Senate and House passed this bill, and it was approved by the President on May 25, 1926. (Public, No. 283, 69th Cong.) It reads as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That when title to lands within the area hereinafter referred to shall have been vested in the United States in fee simple, there shall be, and there is hereby, established, dedicated, and set apart as a public park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people, the tract of land in the Mammoth Cave region in the State of Kentucky, being approximately seven thousand six hundred and eighteen acres, recommended as a national park by the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission to the Secretary of the Interior, in its report of April 8, 1926, and made under authority of the act of February 21, 1925; which area, or any part or parts thereof as may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions hereof, shall be known as the Mammoth Cave National Park: *Provided*, That the United States shall not purchase by appropriation of public moneys any land within the aforesaid area, but such lands shall be secured by the United States only by public or private donation.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to accept, as hereinafter provided, on behalf of the United States, title to the lands referred to in the previous section hereof, and to be purchased with the funds which may be subscribed by or through the Mammoth Cave National Park Association of Kentucky and with other contributions for the purchase of lands in the Mammoth Cave National Park area: *Provided*, That any of said lands may be donated directly to the United States and conveyed to it, cost free, by fee simple title, in cases where such donations may be made without the necessity of purchase.

SEC. 3. The administration, protection, and development of the aforesaid park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the act of August 25, 1916, entitled "An act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes," as amended: *Provided*, That the provisions of the act approved June 10, 1920, known as the Federal water-power act, shall not apply to this park: *And provided further*, That the minimum area to be administered and protected by the National Park Service shall be, for the said Mammoth Cave National Park, twenty thousand acres, including all of the caves: *Provided further*, That no general development of said area shall be undertaken until a major portion of the remainder in such area shall have been accepted by said Secretary.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, employ the commission authorized by the act approved February 21, 1925.

A meeting of the commission was called by the chairman for June 9, 1926, and held in the commission's office, with all members present. Chairman Temple spoke of an interview which he had had recently with the Secretary regarding the unfinished work of the commission, and the morning was spent in a general discussion of this work.

At the afternoon session Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Acting Director of the National Park Service, was present at the invitation of the commission. A general discussion took place in regard to the importance of instructing the State representatives as to the class of land they should purchase first to insure its being accepted by the Secretary of the Interior for park purposes. It was unanimously agreed that all questions concerning the selection of land which should be

referred to the commission in the future would not receive final decision without first being referred to the National Park Service for recommendation and approval. It was also concluded to be desirable and advisable that the National Park Service be represented at future meetings of the commission.

On June 24, 1926, Chairman Temple sent out notices for a meeting of the commission on June 29 and 30, and requests were sent to the chairmen of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission, the North Carolina Park Commission, and the Shenandoah National Park Association to attend the meeting on June 30.

On June 29 the commission held a meeting with all the members present, and Mr. A. B. Cammerer, of the National Park Service, was present at the invitation of Chairman Temple. Representative Temple gave a brief account of an interview which he had with Secretary Work a few days previously and stated that his reason for calling the 2-day session was that he thought it best for the commission to have an opportunity on the first day to discuss plans and decide what recommendations would be made to the State representatives from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia regarding the lands to be purchased within the proposed parks, the second day being left for conference with the State representatives.

The question of allowing small settlers to occupy their present holdings within the park areas if they became national parks was thoroughly discussed, and it was suggested that it might be possible, either under present regulations or under regulations that might be made in the future, to permit desirable settlers to occupy their present holdings for a short term of years, subject to removal at the end of such periods or earlier if they became undesirable for any reason. It was decided, however, that in making purchases of land there should be no qualifying conditions attached to such purchases, and that the question regarding settlers within the park areas might well be left for future decision.

The question regarding the class of land to be first acquired was taken up, and it was decided that the State officials would be urged to acquire low-priced land of national-park standard, but that they should also plan to purchase virgin timber tracts to insure the preservation of these tracts and to stop any further lumbering. It was stated that cut-over tracts might also be acceptable, as it was brought out in the discussion that some of these cut-over tracts if protected from fire might within 15 years or so be covered with a good growth of trees or other vegetation.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Cammerer stated that in his opinion the commissioners should go into the proposed park areas and select certain lands to be purchased first, and that the lands should be of national park caliber and such as would warrant the commission and the National Park Service recommending them to the Secretary of the Interior for inclusion in the national parks. As a result of this discussion and Mr. Cammerer's statement, the following resolution was unanimously passed referring to the Shenandoah National Park area:

The act to provide for the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park prescribed a certain minimum area to be acquired within certain maximum boundaries, which the Secretary of the Interior is "authorized, in his discretion, to accept." This minimum area, when and as acquired, and whether by

donation, purchase, or otherwise, must be satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior from a national park standard standpoint when laid before him for acceptance.

It is suggested, therefore, that for the first 250,000 acres, as typifying the best national park features of the region, areas should be acquired on the main ridge, including spur ridges and canyons lying between them, from Mount Marshall to Jarmans Gap, plus such occasional holdings elsewhere within the designated area as can be secured at low cost for the purpose of establishing reasonable values for later acquisition of other holdings by purchase or condemnation.

A similar resolution referring to the Great Smoky Mountains area was also passed, the area stated in the second paragraph being changed to read "the first 150,000 acres" and a change being made in the same paragraph so as to read "including spur ridges and canyons lying between them, from Mount Guyot to Gregory Bald," etc.

Major Welch stated that he thought there might be difficulties in acquiring all the land in fee simple. Mr. Cammerer informed the State officials that all titles to lands purchased for national parks had to be passed on by the Attorney General before the lands would be accepted by the Secretary of the Interior and that the procedure for getting clear titles would be the same whether the land was acquired by the State or by the Federal Government. General Maloney, of Tennessee, inquired as to who would bear the expense of the work of looking up titles, and was informed that all expense of acquiring land and clearing the titles must be borne by the States.

Mr. Gregg advised the various State officials that the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission would not be in existence indefinitely, but that the commission desired to assist the States as much as possible while it continued to exist. All the representatives expressed regret at the possibility of the discontinuance of the commission, and Colonel Chapman brought out the fact that the committee of five, which included Major Welch, would be seriously affected in its work of raising funds by national campaign should the commission cease to exist.

The chairman then asked the visiting State officials what steps had been taken toward organizing a national campaign. Major Welch informed the commission that the committee of five had been endeavoring to secure a chairman, but thus far had been unable to obtain the service of any of the prominent persons suggested, including Mr. Ochs, and that they were then trying to persuade Mr. John Hays Hammond to act in that capacity.

Representative Temple stated that although a national campaign committee had been incorporated for the purpose of raising money to assist in the purchase of the land for the two parks, before it could proceed and before final results could be obtained, it must be made apparent to the people outside the interested States that a substantial amount of land had already been acquired by the States themselves—that the people from whom funds were solicited would naturally ask what had been done by the States, and they would doubtless be greatly influenced in their giving by the results accomplished by the States.

Senator Squires then made a motion that it was the sense of this meeting that the State organizations proceed to procure options on land in the two park areas, at reasonable prices and in line with the

recommendations of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission.

At the request of the State officials the following statement was given out to the press after the adjournment of the meeting:

A conference of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission with the three incorporated associations, including those in Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina, was held to-day. At this conference it was decided that the three State associations ought at once to take steps to acquire lands within the designated areas in order to carry out without unnecessary delay the provisions of the act by which the Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains National Parks are established.

The commission suggested that the first 150,000 acres in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park as typifying the best national park features of the region should be acquired in the main ridge, including spur ridges and canyons lying between them from Mount Guyot to Gregory Bald; and in the Shenandoah National Park that the first 250,000 acres should be acquired on the main ridge, together with projecting spurs and the canyons lying between them from Mount Marshall to Jarmans Gap; together with such occasional holdings elsewhere within the boundaries of both areas as can be acquired advantageously at the present time.

It is not the intention of the associations representing the three States to pay high prices for lands which have been recently purchased for the purpose of speculation or which are being held at speculative prices. It is the intention, however, to acquire ultimately all the land prescribed by the act, and it is hoped that these lands may be acquired by private negotiations if possible without recourse to the power of condemnation. The commission is pleased with the results already attained by the three park associations, and it hopes that a very fine sense of justice and reason will respond to their further endeavors to secure the land.

It was decided to institute active arrangements for the early commencement of a national campaign for contributions to supplement the existing funds. This campaign can begin effective work as soon as sufficient lands have been acquired within the two areas to give substantial form to the projects. The organization which will conduct the national campaign will be announced in the near future.

On July 19, 1926, Harry F. Byrd, Governor of Virginia, invited Colonel Smith to attend the first meeting of the new commission on conservation and development which he had established in the State of Virginia, to be held on July 23, at which it was expected all matters in connection with the proposed Shenandoah National Park would be discussed with a view to informing his new commission, which was to handle all park matters within the State in the future. Colonel Smith was unable to attend, but Major Welch was notified and accepted the invitation in his stead.

At the request of representatives of the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Park areas the commission held a meeting on February 7 and 8, 1927, to give these representatives an opportunity to place certain matters in which they were vitally interested before the commission. All the members were present except Major Welch, who was unable to attend because of illness. Mr. Cammerer, of the National Park Service, was also present at the invitation of the chairman.

Several residents of Skyland, in the Shenandoah Park area, appeared before the commission and recommended that the park line as tentatively indicated on the existing maps be changed to exclude certain residences lying in or near Skyland settlement. The question was discussed with these representatives in great detail, and it was the consensus of opinion of all the commissioners that it was not only injudicious but practically impossible to change the line to meet the

wishes of owners of land which it was necessary to include within the park. Requests were made by several of the residents for a decision authorizing them to occupy their residences after the areas had been accepted by the Government as a national park. This was discussed, and the residents were advised against bringing up the question in such manner as to force a decision from the Secretary of the Interior at that time, as they felt it would induce numerous property owners throughout the area to ask similar permission, which would result in a great number of privately held lands within the heart of the park, contrary to the policy of both the Secretary of the Interior and the National Park Service.

Mr. Cammerer called the commission's attention to Representative Cramton's statement which quite clearly sets forth the attitude of Congress on this point and stated that unless conditions under which the Government would accept these lands were complied with it would, in his opinion, be impossible to get the proposed parks established.

The question of including church property within the park areas was discussed, as numerous inquiries were constantly coming to the commission regarding property of this kind as well as school property. It was the opinion of the commissioners that after the areas were taken over as national parks the people now residing within them would, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, be required to move outside the parks, which would to a great extent obviate the necessity of having either school or church edifices in their present locations. After further discussion Mr. Gregg suggested that a resolution should be adopted to be given out in order to quiet the apprehensions of the people and at the same time make the facts perfectly clear. The following resolution was unanimously passed:

The requirements as to minimum and maximum areas involved in the acquisition of land for the proposed park, as far as the Federal Government is concerned, are strictly prescribed in the organic act providing for the establishment of the park.

The commission at its meeting on June 30 last indicated where such minimum acreage should be acquired to best advantage to meet such requirements.

The minimum area may surround private holdings, but these must be secured as of the major part of the remainder required to comply with the provision of the act before the park can be finally developed.

In the afternoon the commission met to receive a delegation from Virginia headed by Mr. W. E. Carson, chairman; Mr. E. O. Fippin, secretary and treasurer; and Mr. Lee Long, member of the State Conservation and Development Commission; Mr. H. J. Benchoff and Dr. Joseph H. Smith, members of the National Park Association; and Messrs. L. F. Zerkel and Hugh Naylor. In the absence of the chairman, Vice Chairman Gregg presided.

Mr. Gregg asked the visiting delegates to state the problems which they wished to discuss with the commission, and Mr. Fippin in response gave a brief account of what had been done in raising funds. He stated that two calls for payment of pledges received in the State had been sent out, and in response they had received \$340,000, which had been placed in the bank to be held until sufficient funds were available to purchase 385,000 acres. He stated that the State Conservation and Development Commission had

placed six parties in the field to list and appraise the land. Their aim, Mr. Fippin stated, was to get about 400,000 acres along the main crest of the proposed park. This listing was done by counties. Mr. Gregg called the attention of the delegates to the fact that only 250,000 acres would be needed at first to fill the requirements of the act creating the park, but Mr. Carson stated in reply that their aim was to acquire the major portion of the area within the proposed park boundaries, that they wanted a national park and not a national forest, that it was the intention of the commission to acquire only land that would be suitable in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, and that their goal was 385,000 acres.

Mr. Carson stated that after they had listed and appraised the land they intended to ask the Secretary of the Interior or his representatives to inspect it to decide whether or not it was acceptable before the actual purchases were consummated. He stated that there were at least 5,000 homes within the area, which constituted a big problem in their work of listing and appraising, as most of these residences occupied desirable locations, which would be difficult to acquire.

Mr. Kelsey suggested to Mr. Carson that as soon as they had acquired 250,000 acres they offer it to the Government to be accepted as a national park, so that the National Park Service could take charge and provide fire protection, patrolling, etc. In reply Mr. Carson repeated his statement that it was the intention to acquire the major portion of the area before turning it over to the Government, and that they would not begin purchasing until they had the money to buy 385,000 acres, as he felt that his commission was legally and morally responsible to the people who had already subscribed money for the purchase of land for a national park.

Reference was made to a bill that was being introduced in the North Carolina Legislature for \$2,000,000 with which to purchase land in that State for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This appropriation was to be financed by an issuance of bonds by the State. Mr. Carson stated that as it was contrary to the provisions of the Virginia State constitution to bond the State for any internal improvements, Virginia could not follow North Carolina's method of raising funds.

Colonel Benchoff and Doctor Smith stated that nothing had been done regarding the raising of funds by the national campaign committee of five, as they were waiting for the chairman, Major Welch, to call a meeting of the committee to formulate plans.

On February 8 the commission met to receive Gen. Frank Maloney, of Knoxville, Tenn., and Mr. A. C. Shaw, of Asheville, N. C., representatives of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park area, who wished to consult the commission regarding the purchase of the first 150,000 acres of land that was required by the act to enable the Secretary of the Interior to authorize the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. General Maloney stated that the people of North Carolina and Tennessee desired a representative of the commission and a representative of the National Park Service to visit the area at an early date and indicate what land would be acceptable for the first 150,000 acres of the park, so that it could be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior for his informal approval before they proceeded with any further purchases within the area.

The chairman assured the representatives that arrangements would be made for a representative of the commission to visit the area early in the spring, and Mr. Cammerer stated that similar arrangements would be made by the National Park Service.

To enable the States of North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia to proceed with the acquisition, by purchase or otherwise, of lands designated within the park areas it was necessary for each State to have legislative action authorizing the expenditure of funds in acquiring these lands. A joint resolution was passed by the North Carolina Legislature January 28, 1927, requesting Chairman Temple and Major Welch, of the Southern Appalachian Park Commission, and Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Assistant Director of the National Park Service, to address the legislature in joint session. A similar resolution was passed by the Tennessee Legislature April 8, 1927. The persons invited accepted both invitations and addressed the legislatures as requested regarding the acquisition of land for the proposed park.

A bill was introduced in the North Carolina Legislature, entitled "An act to provide for the acquisition of parks and recreational facilities in the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina" and authorizing the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$2,000,000 for use in acquiring land for park purposes. This bill was passed by the legislature and approved February 25, 1927. A similar act creating the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission and authorizing the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$1,500,000 for the purchase of land was introduced in the Tennessee Legislature and became a law by the approval of Governor Austin Peay on April 27, 1927.

During the later part of May and the early part of June Mr. Kelsey and Colonel Smith cooperated with Mr. Cammerer, who had been instructed by the Secretary of the Interior to select a tentative boundary which would inclose the minimum of 427,000 acres for the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Mr. Cammerer, on his return from this inspection trip, submitted a report to Secretary Work, in which he recommended a suitable topographic boundary line for the proposed park, subject to a few modifications and adjustments, which would give to each State its share of the minimum of 427,000 acres necessary for the establishment of the proposed national park. It was impracticable to divide equally the area between the two States. However, the boundary line tentatively established by Mr. Cammerer gave Tennessee 228,500 acres and North Carolina 225,500 acres, with a leeway of approximately 10,000 acres on each side for adjusting areas to be acquired to constitute the necessary total of 427,000 acres. This report met with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

During November Mr. Kelsey spent about two weeks in assisting Mr. Cammerer in determining the minimum boundary line of the proposed Shenandoah National Park. Colonel Smith also accompanied Mr. Cammerer part of the time while he was engaged on this work.

On January 10, 1928, Major Welch submitted his resignation as a member of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission to Secretary Work, who accepted it on January 14. Major Welch's resignation was due to the fact that his position as chief engineer and general manager of the Palisades Interstate Park made it im-

possible for him to spend the necessary time that might be required for inspection trips by the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission.

The members of the commission received an invitation from the Richmond Chamber of Commerce to attend a reception and buffet supper to be given to representatives of the Virginia Legislature at the Jefferson Hotel on January 31, 1928. The Secretary of the Interior, Governor Byrd, and many officials of the State government were also invited.

Secretary Work, accompanied by Chairman Temple, Mr. Gregg, and Colonel Smith, of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, left Washington January 31 and on their arrival at Richmond were met by Mr. Frederick W. Scott, jr., who had invited to dine at his residence Gov. Harry Byrd; Secretary Work; members of the commission; Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director of Public Buildings and Parks; Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Assistant Director of the National Park Service; Mr. W. J. Showalter, of the National Geographic Society; Hon. Junius E. West, lieutenant governor of Virginia; Hon. Thomas W. Ozlin, speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates; Senator John A. Lessner, of Norfolk; Mr. Junius P. Fishburn, president of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Eugene B. Sydnor, president of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. W. E. Carson, chairman of the State Conservation and Development Commission. Immediately after the dinner the Secretary's party proceeded to the auditorium of the Jefferson Hotel, where the Secretary, Governor Byrd, and others addressed the meeting.

A tremendous ovation greeted the Secretary when he arose to make the preliminary address of the evening, and all the speakers were enthusiastically received. The most notable demonstration of the evening came toward the end, when Col. U. S. Grant 3d, grandson of Gen. U. S. Grant, was introduced by Dr. Douglas Freeman, toastmaster. The audience of 600, rising from their seats as one man, tendered such an unusual demonstration that in spite of his manifest reluctance Colonel Grant was compelled to make a speech in acknowledgment.

After the meeting in the auditorium the chamber of commerce gave an informal smoker and buffet supper to Secretary Work, the commission, and members of the Virginia Legislature, at which plans for making the proposed Shenandoah National Park a reality were thoroughly discussed.

At the request of the Shenandoah National Park Association a bill was introduced in the House by Representative Temple and in the Senate by Senator Swanson, of Virginia, entitled "An act to establish a minimum area for a Shenandoah National Park, for administration, protection, and general development by the National Park Service, and for other purposes," which was passed by the House and Senate and approved by the President on February 16, 1928. (Public, No. 33, 70th Cong.) This act read as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the minimum area for administration, protection, and general development by the National Park Service in the Shenandoah National Park, the establishment of which is provided for by the act of Congress approved May 22, 1926 (44 Stat. 616), be, and the same is

hereby, established as three hundred and twenty-seven thousand acres, and so much of the said act of May 22, 1926, as is inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to lease lands within the Shenandoah National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park for periods not exceeding two years, upon such conditions as he may in his discretion deem proper, to persons and educational or religious institutions occupying same or who had or claim to have had some interest in the title to the same prior to the establishment of the park.

The Legislature of Virginia passed an act, which was approved by Governor Byrd on March 23, 1928, "providing the form and mode of procedure and furnishing a system of procedure for the condemnation of lands and buildings and other improvements thereon, or of any estate or interest therein, for use as a public park or for public-park purposes, which shall be applied in any condemnation proceedings wherein the petitioner is vested with the power of eminent domain for the condemnation of such lands for such purposes, anything in any existing statute, law, or rule of procedure to the contrary notwithstanding."

After the resignation of Major Welch all activities of the Appalachian National Parks Association (Inc.) ceased, as he had been the guiding spirit in that organization, and the whole project seemed at a standstill. At the insistence of the official representatives of the States of North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, the Secretary of the Interior permitted Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, associate director of the National Park Service, to undertake the collection of funds outside of these three States in his personal capacity, not as an official of the United States. As a result of the personal interest of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial as a memorial to Laura Spelman Rockefeller contributed up to \$5,000,000 toward the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, matching dollar for dollar such funds as had been made available by the citizens of the States and the States themselves, with certain conditions as to the memorial feature, which were agreed to by the States. This money was especially designated for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park because of Mr. Rockefeller's keen desire to save the wonderful forests from being lumbered. As soon as this fund was in hand both States took immediate steps to enjoin all lumber cutting within the park area.

Vice Chairman Gregg called a meeting of the commission for January 11 and 12, 1929, to be held at the office of the commission. Chairman Temple was absent from the city on account of illness, and Major Welch had resigned, but the other members were in attendance. Mr. Cammerer was also present at the invitation of the commission. The meeting was called in response to a request of the chairman of the North Carolina Park Commission to consider a suggestion that a part of the act approved May 22, 1926, "An act to provide for the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park in the State of Virginia and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, and for other purposes," inclosing approximately 704,000 acres in the two States, referring to the maximum boundary line of the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park as set forth in the original report of the commission and embodied in the report of

the Secretary of the Interior to Congress on April 14, 1926, be amended to include an area alleged to contain about 10,729.50 acres involved in the Suncrest Lumber Co.'s tract lying east of Caldwell Fork and Cataloochee Creek. Senator Squires, chairman of the North Carolina Park Commission, and Mr. Vernon Rhoades, executive secretary of the commission, indicated that this parcel of land was a minor part of the holdings of the Suncrest Lumber Co., which otherwise lie entirely within the maximum boundary line of the proposed park, and that it was probable that in purchasing that portion of the lumber company's land lying within the boundary line the State would be required to pay as much as for the whole tract, which included the proposed addition. Several members of the commission were familiar with the area and approved the suggestion. Mr. Cammerer explained that the North Carolina Commission felt that as this extra acreage was a part of the major lumber holdings to be acquired from the lumber company the courts would, if it came to court action in condemnation proceedings, give as much for the parcel already within the park area as it would for the entire tract including this 10,000 acres outside of the park and for that reason the State wanted to have authority to accept it for the park if the courts compelled them to take the entire tract. Mr. Cammerer stated that he had agreed to this provided that this 10,000 acres would not be considered a part of the minimum acreage to be turned over to the Government inasmuch as the State was getting it without extra cost, so to speak. An amendment was introduced by Representative Temple on June 30, 1929, and was passed by Congress and approved by the President April 19, 1930 (Public No. 154, 71st Cong.), reading as follows:

An Act To provide for the extension of the boundary limits of the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the establishment of which is authorized by the act approved May 22, 1926 (Forty-fourth Statutes, p. 616)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the boundary limits of the tract of land in the Great Smoky Mountains in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, recommended by the Secretary of the Interior in his report of April 14, 1926, for the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, be, and the same are hereby, extended to include lands adjacent to the east boundary as defined in said report to a line approximately as follows:

From a point on top of the Balsam Mountains at the boundary of Swain and Hayward Counties, just north of Black Camp Gap; thence following east the top of the mountain range to Jonathan Knob and Hemphill Bald; thence along top of ridge through Camp Gap to Bent Knee Knob; thence following the main ridge to Cataloochee Creek to a point on the boundary of the area described in report of the Secretary of the Interior of April 14, 1926; and the lands within said boundary extension, or any part thereof, may be accepted on behalf of the United States in accordance with the provisions of the act of May 22, 1926, for inclusion in the area to be known as the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

The commission held a brief session on January 12, 1930, for the transaction of routine business.

On February 6, 1930, large delegations from North Carolina and Tennessee, headed by the governors of the respective States, called on the Hon. Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior, at his office in Washington, and officially presented to him the lands acquired within the States of North Carolina and Tennessee as a nucleus for the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Associate Director Cammerer, of the National Park Service, introduced Gov. O. Max Gardner, of North Carolina, to Secretary Wilbur, and the governor made the following speech of presentation:

Mr. Secretary, North Carolina joins Tennessee to-day in presenting to the Federal Government under existing laws 158,799.21 acres of the unique area designated as the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Our joint action makes the first concrete step toward the actual consummation of this project, and we confidently believe we shall soon take the next step, when the minimum area, or a total of 427,000 acres, will be presented. Then, Mr. Secretary, the Federal Government will be free to proceed under the law with the development of a great park in the Appalachian Mountains for the benefit of the entire Nation.

We are presenting to you "the most massive uplift" in the East, containing 15 peaks towering about 6,000 feet. This particular area, lying in almost equal portions in North Carolina and Tennessee, is unsurpassed for natural beauty and grandeur and contains 1,000,000 acres of virgin forests, some of which were full grown when Columbus discovered America.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park, when established, will create in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains a permanent sanctuary for animal and bird life and a botanical garden and arboretum which scientists say will be unequaled in the world.

This great undertaking, when accomplished, will preserve the last remnant of the American wilderness of any considerable size east of the Mississippi River, and a great tract of virgin timber which will be allowed to stand in its natural grandeur, safe forever from the usual forces of devastation. In conserving this great forest we shall preserve at its source the water power of two States and minimize considerably the danger of droughts and floods in the southern section of the Nation.

Moreover, through the development contemplated, this area will become a playground of majestic proportions and a recreational center in the East that will be accessible within a day's ride to one-half of the population of the United States, for it lies halfway between the Mississippi and the Atlantic, and between the Great Lakes and the Gulf, not more than 500 miles distant from each of these extremes.

No other national park in America will serve with such convenience such a large population, and we confidently believe that in preserving this area and donating it to the Nation we are thereby making the Great Smoky Mountains National Park a certainty, and that through this action taken to-day we are not only preserving an area of great scenic beauty but we are providing a medium through which the people of the South and all other sections of the Nation will become better acquainted, and in this way we shall effect a finer unity of all our people.

I take very great pleasure, Mr. Secretary, in presenting the deed to the lands lying in North Carolina, and in doing so I feel it only just to our people to speak in praise of the splendid work of the North Carolina Park Commission and the National Park Commission, of the citizens of our State, and particularly of Hon. Mark Squires, who have cooperated enthusiastically and contributed liberally of their private funds (\$265,000), and of the General Assembly of North Carolina for its bond issue of \$2,000,000. I would also like to make public acknowledgment of the splendid work of Congressman Henry W. Temple of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Appalachian National Park Commission, who, with his associates on that commission, were responsible for the selection of this park area. And particularly must I record the deep gratitude of North Carolina to the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial for its very generous gift of \$5,000,000 to match the funds of both States. This donation came to us through the great interest and public spirit of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., through the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, who assisted in the creation of this park as a memorial to his mother; and her memory will be preserved throughout the ages as long as the park shall last, and the good that she will continue to do through her son's loving remembrance will be an everlasting benefit to our people.

Governor Gardner then presented to Secretary Wilbur the deeds to those park lands lying in North Carolina, and included in the 158,799.21 acres.

Mr. Cammerer next introduced Gov. Henry H. Horton, of Tennessee, who made the following speech of presentation:

Mr. Secretary, ladies, and gentlemen, I have the honor and great pleasure of presenting, through you, to the Government of the United States, for national park purposes as authorized by the Federal act of May 22, 1926, and applicable legislation passed by the legislature of the State of Tennessee, deed to 100,176.03 acres of land in that section of the Great Smoky Mountains so beautifully described just now by the Governor of North Carolina.

It is not necessary, nor perhaps appropriate at this time, for me to endeavor to enlarge on the beauties and grandeur of this area and its preeminent fitness for national park purposes—time forbids my attempting it. Suffice it to say that the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, headed by Congressman H. W. Temple and composed of men nationally known for their knowledge of national parks and the policies controlling their establishment and development, after a survey of the entire southern Appalachian Range selected this area and in glowing terms proclaimed its beauty. The Secretary of the Interior later on, after investigation of the merits of the project by his experts of the National Park Service of the Interior Department, verified their recommendation as sound. From that time on the Great Smoky Mountains National Park project took its place among the greatest projects ever undertaken by any State for the benefit of mankind, and for conservation of beautiful scenic areas for the enjoyment of this and future generations.

I believe it fitting that I may here express the gratitude and appreciation of the people of Tennessee to Doctor Temple and his associates on the Appalachian National Park Commission, and to your department, and to you, Mr. Secretary, and your immediate predecessor Secretary Work, for the generous interest manifested in behalf of the park project. Particularly do I want to emphasize also the deep gratitude and heartfelt appreciation of the people of Tennessee for the valuable substantial support given by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial in matching funds made available locally in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, so that the park might become a reality, and to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., whose personal interest and foresight and public spiritedness have promised the actual realization of this great plan. I wish also at this time to take the opportunity to acknowledge the State's gratitude to Arno B. Cammerer, associate director of the National Park Service, who, as your representative, has been unfailing in his cooperation, official and personal, in the enterprise and in his assistance in solving many unforeseen problems that constantly arise in a new project of this magnitude with few precedents to turn to for guidance. And to Col. David C. Chapman, an original park advocate and a citizen of Tennessee who unstintingly, without thought of self or his private affairs, has for years given his time, both personally and as chairman of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission, toward the furtherance of this project, too much praise can not be given by a grateful State. To the members of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission and other agencies and individuals who have done so much to help the cause and made possible the establishment of the park I desire also to record the thanks of the State of Tennessee.

I am confident that all these, and the members of the legislature of my State and of the Congress of the United States, who have supported and cooperated so faithfully, untiringly, and earnestly in the establishment of this park, will join in my satisfaction and pleasure in being able to participate in this momentous, historic occasion, which marks definitely the beginning of the establishment of one of the most magnificent national parks of the world.

Let me add that Tennessee is interested in bringing this accomplishment to a successful close as speedily as possible. We now have contracted for 40,000 acres more than was delivered to you to-day, and suits are pending in court for condemnation proceedings to 37,000 acres more.

We are running a race with North Carolina as to which can first deliver the entire amount necessary for the park to the Government of the United States.

Governor Horton then presented to Secretary Wilbur the deeds to those park lands lying within Tennessee and included in the 158,799.21 acres.

Secretary Wilbur, having accepted the deeds, made the following talk:

The Governors of North Carolina and Tennessee, ladies, and gentlemen, this is a particularly happy occasion for me. I have written down a few things to say because this is a historical occasion, but before reading them I want to express my deep personal gratitude to all of you men who have been working so hard to bring about the consummation of this very significant project. You have builded better than you know. We were just about on the verge of losing for the eastern part of our continent all of our great natural glories. Your preservation of a portion of them, and the efforts now being made for the Shenandoah National Park, are the most encouraging thing that I know of in this great field of conservation. In fact, this is the largest real-estate operation with which I have ever been associated! You can go as far as you like in your contest between the two States, and if it is an even race you will get an even heartier welcome than to-day.

You have tendered to me, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 22, 1926, providing for the establishment among other things of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the States of North Carolina and Tennessee, title to some 158,790.21 acres, or nearly 240 square miles, of unequaled mountain valley land in the heart of the Great Smokies, which I hereby accept with the profound thanks of the American people, but of course necessarily subject to review of title tendered by the legal officers of the department.

Several years ago, when a responsible commission under this department, headed by Congressman Temple of Pennsylvania, and under authority of the Congress, investigated the southern Appalachian Mountain Range with the object of ascertaining whether there still remained an area within that range measuring up to national-park standards, they rendered an enthusiastic report on the merits of two possible park projects, one that of the proposed Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the other of the proposed Shenandoah National Park. To-day marks the first step in the final accomplishment of the first.

The committee's requirements for their guidance in such search were:

1. Mountain scenery with inspiring perspectives and delightful details.
2. Areas sufficiently extensive and adaptable so that annually millions of visitors might enjoy the benefit of outdoor life and communion with nature without the confusion of overcrowding.
3. A substantial part to contain forests, shrubs and flowers, and mountains and streams, with picturesque cascades and waterfalls overhung with foliage, all untouched by the hand of man.
4. Abundant springs and streams available for camps and fishing.
5. Opportunities for protecting and developing the wild life of the area, and the whole to be a natural museum, preserving outstanding features of the southern Appalachians as they appeared in the early pioneer days.
6. Accessibility by rail and road.

In what is now the Great Smoky Mountains National Park area was found an area measuring up to the requirements of a national park area, because of the "height of mountains, depth of valleys, ruggedness of the area, and the unexampled variety of trees, shrubs, and plants. The region includes Mount Guyot, Mount LeConte, Clingmans Dome, and Gregory Bald and may be extended in several directions to include other splendid mountain regions adjacent thereto."

The department representative directed to review their findings confirmed those facts, and that the area measured up to national park standards in every particular. You therefore are tendering title to a portion of that national park for administrative and protective purposes as authorized by the Federal law, which will soon be followed by the tender of title to the remainder of not less than 277,000 acres to complete the park. At that time the National Park Service of the Interior Department may assume charge of its development as a complete national park under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department.

The States of North Carolina and Tennessee, through their citizens and legislatures, subscribed nearly \$5,000,000 toward this project, which was later matched up to \$5,000,000 by a pledge of the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial in memory of Laura Spelman Rockefeller, completing a fund which it is estimated, based upon the best then available information, is sufficient, I am informed, to complete the purchase of the minimum park project. I particularly want to express my appreciation of the great public spirit shown

by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in making this great park project a possibility through their magnificent contribution as a memorial to Laura Spelman Rockefeller. I have not yet had the good fortune to make a personal inspection of this area, but from all I know from those who have been so fortunate I will find one of the most inspiring, romantic, and scenic areas in the Americas when I do visit it, which I hope to do very soon.

In the acquisition of this land for the park for national-park purposes there were no precedents to guide the several States and their representatives. All western national parks were carved from the public domain of the United States, and the acquisition of the land did not cost the Government anything, nor were serious problems of acquisition involved. A different problem had to be met in the Smokies, since the Government could not well, along established policies, spend Federal funds in the acquisition of such land, and the method followed by the two States of securing funds privately had to be followed.

The gathering of the necessary funds, the passing of the special legislation, both Federal and State, necessary to accomplish the object, the acquisition of the many individual parcels of land by purchase or condemnation, all presented titanic problems, which through the earnestness and hard work of the several State park commissions, supported by their respective governors and State legislatures, have been overcome as they arose. Especially do I want to compliment through you the splendid efforts of your respective park commissions, headed by the Hon. Mark Squires, of North Carolina, and Col. David C. Chapman, of Tennessee, whose work I consider outstanding in such national effort. The States of North Carolina and Tennessee, their governors, their legislatures, and their park commissions are accomplishing what at one time was considered the impossible, and posterity will forever record the remarkable work that has been done by them and those others who are making the Great Smoky Mountains National Park a fact. This park will when finally completed, I am confident, play its important part in the future progress of the great Commonwealths of North Carolina and Tennessee.

The peoples of the United States will ever appreciate the great work you have done in saving this area, for in the long run we are the sons and daughters of nature, and nature is at her choicest in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

At the conclusion of the Secretary's speech, Director Horace M. Albright, of the National Park Service, introduced to the Secretary Senator Mark Squires, chairman of the North Carolina Park Commission, engaged in acquiring lands for the proposed park. He in turn introduced the members of his commission.

Then Mr. Albright introduced Col. David C. Chapman, chairman of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains National Park Commission, who introduced the members of his commission.

After that Mr. Albright introduced Representative H. W. Temple, chairman of the Appalachian Park Commission; Col. Glenn S. Smith, secretary of the commission; Mr. Kenneth Chorley, representative of the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial; Mr. Will Carson, chairman of the Virginia Conservation Commission, which is developing the Shenandoah project; and those members of the Tennessee and North Carolina delegations in Congress who were present. This ended the presentation ceremonies.

The legislature of Kentucky passed a bill (approved March 22, 1930), entitled "An act to provide for the conveyance to the United States of America of certain land for national-park purposes agreeable to this act and the act of the general assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, approved February 28, 1928, known as the Strange-Bartlett Act, chapter 164, page 550, acts 1928, and any amendments thereto; and as contemplated and provided for in and by the act of Congress of the United States entitled 'An act to provide for the establishment of the Mammoth Cave National Park in

the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes,¹ approved May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 635), and as may be provided for in any amendments which may be made to said act of Congress; also, for the cession, to the United States of America, of jurisdiction over said lands for national-park purposes, with certain reservations to the State of Kentucky touching the question of jurisdiction; for the repeal of all laws, or parts of laws, of the State of Kentucky inconsistent or in conflict herewith; and declaring an emergency,² which was followed by an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the purchase of land for park purposes.

On October 30, 1930, Colonel Smith joined Mr. Cammerer, of the National Park Service, at Mammoth Cave, to assist him in determining the location of the minimum boundary line for the proposed Mammoth Cave National Park. Several days were spent in this area, and Colonel Smith returned to Washington on November 8.

The commission's work of locating areas for national parks then appeared to be completed. During the past two or three years the duties of the commission had been gradually diminishing and were confined to occasional trips by one or more of the commissioners to the proposed park areas, to cooperate with representatives of the National Park Service in determining the minimum park boundary lines for the various parks.

The determination by the National Park Service of the boundary lines inclosing the minimum areas that would be suitable to recommend to the Secretary of the Interior involved numerous trips to the different areas by representatives of the service, and it became immediately evident that the existing topographic maps covering the two proposed park areas were of too small a scale and so inaccurate as to make it impossible to plot the minimum boundary lines as determined on them.

Mr. W. E. Carson, chairman of the Virginia Conservation and Development Commission, who had under his jurisdiction the Shenandoah Park area and who under the existing State laws was appraising the lands to be acquired for park purposes, called on the commission to assist the State in locating on the ground the minimum boundary as determined by the National Park Service. This required a field survey. As there were no State funds at that time for this purpose Mr. Carson on January 12, 1927, personally advanced the necessary funds (\$10,000) to his commission. The Director of the United States Geological Survey added an additional \$10,000 and the Geological Survey topographically mapped and marked the minimum boundary lines on the ground.

When completed the value of this survey was recognized, and it was decided that topographic maps of the entire park areas were necessary for a base on which the States could plot the parcels of land acquired. To assist the States in their work Congress in the second deficiency bill of 1928 appropriated \$65,000 for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and \$35,000 for the Shenandoah National Park to be expended in executing such surveys. In the second deficiency bill of 1929 an additional \$60,000 was appropriated for the Great Smoky area and \$45,000 for the Shenandoah area to continue this work. The State of Kentucky, seeing the need of a small map of the Mammoth Cave Park area, requested that an

appropriation be made by Congress to map that area, and the second deficiency bill of 1930 provided \$25,000 for this purpose. To complete the topographic mapping and publish the resulting maps of the Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah areas Congress provided \$75,000 in the Interior Department bill of 1930, which was sufficient to complete these areas. In 1931 the second deficiency bill carried an item of \$4,600 to complete the mapping and the publication of the resulting maps of the Mammoth Cave area. Thus Congress has assisted the several States to the total amount of \$319,600—\$175,000 for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, \$115,000 for the Shenandoah National Park, and \$29,000 for the Mammoth Cave National Park.

In the later part of 1930 the work of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission seemed to have been completed. The problems of the various State park associations had been transferred gradually to the National Park Service and a portion of the designated area had been turned over to the Federal Government in accordance with the plan originally outlined by the commission. The commission therefore asked for no appropriation for the fiscal year 1931-32, and Chairman Temple called a meeting for December 30, 1930, at the office of the commission in Washington, to consider the advisability of making a final report and asking the Secretary of the Interior to dissolve the commission. The remaining members of the commission were all present except Colonel Smith, who was absent from the city on account of illness.

A general discussion brought out the fact that the functions of the commission—namely, to select, if possible, a suitable area or areas of national-park status within certain limits of territory, and then devise a plan for helping the people to acquire the land without cost to the Federal Government—had been fulfilled.

Appreciation was expressed for the cooperation of the Geological Survey in making airplane maps and in other work, and of the courtesy of the Army Air Service in furnishing airplanes for the use of the commission in surveys.

On motion of Mr. Gregg it was resolved to make a final report to the Secretary of the Interior and to ask him to dissolve the commission.

H. W. TEMPLE, *Chairman.*

SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN NATIONAL PARK COMMISSION,
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING,
Washington, June 1, 1931.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I submit to you herewith the final report of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission which was authorized by act of Congress approved February 21, 1925. The report also covers the activities of the informal Southern Appalachian National Park Committee appointed by Secretary Work on March 26, 1924. The same members served on the informal committee and the commission.

The members of the commission believe that they have accomplished the task given them and, unless you have other work for

them, it is respectfully requested that you dissolve this commission effective at the close of June 30, 1931.

Very truly yours,

HENRY W. TEMPLE, *Chairman.*

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, June 12, 1931.

HON. H. W. TEMPLE,
*Chairman Southern Appalachian National Park Commission,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. TEMPLE: Your letter of June 1 last has been received, submitting the final report of the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, and requesting that, since the members of the commission, in your opinion, have accomplished the task given them, unless I have other work in mind for them within the purview of the original act of February 21, 1925, authorizing the commission's establishment, it be dissolved, effective at the close of business on June 30, 1931.

Since I concur in your conclusion that the commission has completed its work, and I can not think of other work to assign to it, I have to-day issued the order you request dissolving the commission at the close of business on June 30 next. In doing so I want to express to you, and through you to the individual members of the commission, my sincere appreciation of the outstanding public work your commission accomplished, without compensation, in the selection of the three proposed new eastern parks, namely, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee, the Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky, and the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. All three of these parks are now in various stages of accomplishment, and I am confident that before long you and your associates may see a definite consummation of these conservation projects in which your commission took such a vital part. That, I am sure, will in itself bring to you and your associates the largest measure of satisfaction.

Very truly yours,

RAY LYMAN WILBUR.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, June 12, 1931.

ORDER No. 515

It is ordered and directed that the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission, authorized by the act of Congress approved February 21, 1925, is hereby dissolved, effective at the close of business on June 30, 1931, said commission having completed the duties contemplated under said law. All files and records of said commission are hereby transferred to the National Park Service at the close of business on June 30 next.

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, *Secretary.*



ENGRAVED AND PRINTED BY THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Scales.
0 100 200 300 400 500 Miles
0 100 200 300 400 500 Kilometers

Edition of Mar. 1911, reprinted 1929
Polyconic projection.

MSH # 2449

**END OF
TITLE**